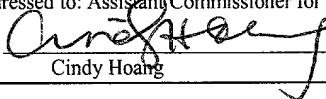


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Cindy Hoang

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Russell A. HOUSER et al.

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: PERCUTANEOUS BYPASS GRAFT
AND SECURING SYSTEM

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of fees for this application, please make the following amendments:

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 28-41, 44-47 and 67 without prejudice.

REMARKS

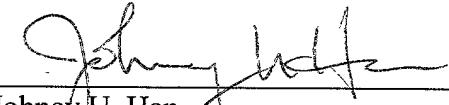
Claims 28-41, 44-47 and 67 have been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-27, 42-43, and 48-66 are currently under consideration. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented. No new matter has been added.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 441742000101. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 10, 2001

By:


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Registration No. 45,565

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